

**Preliminary Amendment of U.S. National Stage for International
Application PCT/EP2003/013976 filed December 10, 2003**

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

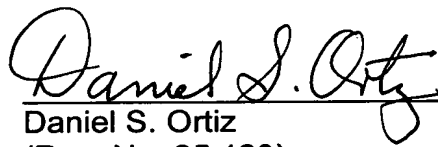
Applicants request that the amendments be entered in the specification. The amendments to the specification are of an editorial nature and do not enter new matter.

The claims have been amended to place them in a form for ready examination in the United States Patent and Trademark Office. All multiple dependent claims dependent on multiple dependent claims have been deleted. No new matter has been entered by way of amendments to the claims.

No amendment to the claims has been entered to overcome any prior art reference of which Applicants are aware. All of the amendments are related to the form of the claims required by the United States Patent and Trademark Office.

Favorable consideration of the claims in their amended form is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Daniel S. Ortiz", is written over a horizontal line.

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